

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roland Kreutzer, et al.

Title: METHOD AND MEDICAMENT FOR INHIBITING THE EXPRESSION OF A DEFINED GENE

Serial No.: 09/889,802

Art Unit: 1635

Filing Date: September 17, 2001

Examiner: Brian A. Whiteman

Docket No.: 33796

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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GROUP 1600

Sir:

Please amend the application before its examination as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete without prejudice claims 1-125 presently pending in the application.

Please add the following new claims 126-220 as follows.

126. (New) Method for inhibiting the expression of a given target gene in a cell, where an oligoribonucleotide with double-stranded structure (dsRNA) which has 15 to 49 base pairs is introduced into the cell, where one strand of the dsRNA has a region I with not more than 49 successive nucleotide pairs and which is at least in parts complementary to the target gene and where a complementary region II within the double-stranded structure is formed by two separate RNA single strands.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents on the date indicated below.

John P. Murtaugh
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)Sept. 11, 2002 John P. Murtaugh
Date Signature of Attorney